

January 18, 2008

Dear Mock Trial Supporter:

On behalf of the Michigan Center for Civic Education and the hundreds of high school students throughout the state who participate in Mock Trial, I would like to invite you to participate as a volunteer in the 2008 Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament.

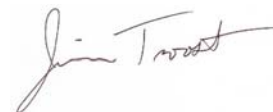
As participants in the tournament, high school students will take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses and go head to head in this year's case *State v. Morgan Phillips*. A college basketball referee, known to have a gambling problem and mob connections, is found dead just hours after the big game between in-state rivals. Head basketball booster Morgan Phillips was seen arguing with the referee earlier in the day, accusing him of fixing the game. Did Phillips commit the murder, or was it a mob setup?

You can hear the arguments from both sides at one of the two regional competitions, or at the state finals. The regional competitions will be in Grand Rapids, March 1, and in Pontiac, March 8. If you are an experienced mock trial volunteer, another option is the state finals in Lansing on March 15. Each of the regional events consists of three rounds. Those volunteering for the morning will see two trials, while afternoon volunteers will see one. The state finals will have four rounds, the extra round being the blue-ribbon championship round.

These three events require approximately 180 volunteer judges and dozens of bailiff/timekeepers. Please use the enclosed form to sign up, and feel free to reproduce and share the form with others.

If you have volunteered in years past, I hope to see you again this year. If you have never volunteered before, why not give it try? If the dates do not work for you this year, please consider supporting Mock Trial by becoming a Center member (form enclosed).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Troost", with a stylized, flowing script.

Jim Troost
Director of Programs

2008 MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM

Yes! I would like to volunteer as a:

____ **Scoring Judge** (open only to attorneys and judges)

____ **Presiding Judge** (experienced mock trial judges or actual trial judges only; trial experience preferred)

____ **Bailiff/Timekeeper**
(open to legal assistants, law students, and others associated with the legal community)

At the:

Western Regional Tournament
Kent County Courthouse
Grand Rapids

Saturday, March 1, 2008

____ Morning, 7:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2 trials)

____ Afternoon, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (1 trial)

____ All Day

Eastern Regional Tournament
Oakland County Courthouse
Pontiac

Saturday, March 8, 2008

____ Morning, 7:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2 trials)

____ Afternoon, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (1 trial)

____ All Day

State Finals (Have trial experience; mock or real)
Lansing

Saturday, March 15, 2008

____ Morning, 7:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (2 trials)

____ Afternoon, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (1 trial)

If there are any schools that you should not judge due to an association or relationship with the school, the team, or the team's coaches, please list them here:

NAME _____ TITLE _____

FIRM/AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL: _____ OFFICE # _____ HOME # _____

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

To be guaranteed a role in the 2008 Tournament, responses are appreciated by **February 8, 2008**.
Responses received after the target date are still welcome, and often vital.

Mail, Phone, E-Mail or Fax to:

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Michigan Center for Civic Education
2111 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48328
(248) 209-2349 Fax (248) 209-2436
Jim.troost@oakland.k12.mi.us

Detailed instructions will be provided upon receipt of your registration.